



City of Newport
2020 Comprehensive Plan
Update



Steering Committee Meeting #4

July 30, 2020

Planning Team:

City of Newport, KY
CT Consultants
Human Nature

If you have technical difficulties, contact Larisa Sims at lsims@newportky.gov or text (859) 991-0229

Tonight's Agenda

5:30 pm Welcome, Confirm Attendees

5:40 pm Public Forum Recap

5:50 pm Overview of Updated Goals,
Objectives & First Cut Strategies

6:00 pm Discussion - Objectives & First Cut
Strategies

7:00 pm Agree on 3 Focus Group Topics

7:20 pm Future Public Engagement Options

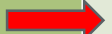
Online Meeting Reminder

- After the roll call, all participants will be placed on mute.
- If you have technical difficulties, contact Larisa Sims at lsims@newportky.gov or text (859) 991-0229
- To ask questions please use the **chat function** located on the top menu bar.
- To facilitate orderly discussions, when open discussion takes place, **please use the chat box to get in line to speak.** We will check on attendees who call in on the phone periodically as well.
- If you are on the phone, please do not put your call “on hold”. You should use the speaker mute and unmute function.

Schedule

	Work Step	Schedule
Phase 1	Discovery: where we are compared to where we want to be	
	Analyze trends, conditions & assets; conduct stakeholder interviews Summarize issues and assets Steering Committee meeting #1	Jan - Mar '20
	Review 2015 Plan's goals, objectives, strategies; identify key focus areas Steering Committee meetings #2 & #3 Conduct online survey Public workshop #1	Apr – Jun '20
Phase 2	Visioning: confirm goals & explore options	
	Finalize goals and objectives; explore policy & development options Steering Committee meeting #4 Conduct focus group sessions	Jun - Sep '20
Phase 3	Charting the Course: formalize strategies & action steps	
	Finalize strategies; identify potential action steps; agree on priorities Steering Committee meetings (#5 & #6) Public workshop #2	Sep - Nov '20
Phase 4	Finalizing the plan update document	
	Steering Committee meeting #7 - finalize plan document Submit final plan update to City	Dec '20 - Jan '21

We are here



Steering Committee meeting #4

| Public Forum Recap

Public Forum Participation

	Views (as of 7/6/20)	Commented
Planning Overview	141	22
Goal 1. Strong Vibrant Neighborhoods	30	5
Goal 2. Meaningful Connections	21	4
Goal 3. Economic Prosperity & Resilience	25	4
Goal 4. Well-Connected Multi-Modal Transportation Network	21	6
Goal 5. Sustainable Environment	13	3
Goal 6. Healthy Community	14	2
Goal 7. Good Government	14	1

Summary of Comments

General:

- The most important thing is for people in Newport to feel like where they live is a home and a community. They take pride in their neighborhoods and they feel safe.
- Choose fewer things to do and focus on some breakthrough areas in order to have real, impactful change.

Diversity & Inclusion:

- Address roadblocks that prevented the diversity objectives in 2015 plan from being met.
- Assess equity in terms of opportunity, outcomes & impact on residents.
- Empower underrepresented communities to be successful in Newport. Diversity should be a core value.

Vibrant Neighborhoods:

- Address recycling facility's numerous explosions, fires, particulate matter released into the air, noise, and residents'

quality of life. Affects the west side and Clifton Neighborhood.

Meaningful Places:

- Decorative street lights help create character.
- Encourage both big events where people will share spaces and smaller events that enable more personal connections between people from different neighborhoods.
- Assist citizens who cannot financially afford to go to local attractions, specifically, kids who live in Newport who can walk to the levee but can't take advantage of the aquarium, e.g. partner with businesses to create a "Newport day out" or sponsor passes or tickets for students at Newport schools.

Economic Prosperity & Resilience - encourage:

- Connections between local businesses and social services.
- Businesses that are doing good for society.
- More outdoor restaurants.

Summary of Comments

Transportation:

- Options are needed for workforce development.
- Accommodate car sharing and more delivery of goods.
- Focus traffic improvements on entry/exit points (hotspots for accidents)
- Transportation improvements are needed along the riverfront area, along Dave Cowens; Fix the sidewalks and improve crosswalk at Route 8 Dave Cowens and Park. People who are walking across the Cowens to the Levee/Flood Wall entrance are in danger of getting hit by people turning right on red - drivers aren't expecting walkers - no left turn off ramp until cross walk is over.

Environment:

- Plant street trees as part of new roadway improvements.

Healthy Community:

- Need more restaurants that serve/focus on healthy food
- Consider allowing bees
- Coordinate with schools on community use of school assets; for example, tennis and basketball courts at the high school need to be repaved and available for public use.

Schools:

- The City has to find a way to get involved with the schools - through the comprehensive plan: Newport Independent School District's 3- Year Strategic Plan; NKU's Success By Design; and Gateway's Make Change Happen.

Good Government:

- Make planning and zoning decisions as transparent as possible.

Updated Goals, Objectives & First Cut Strategies

Organization & Definitions

Example Using
Goal 1.

<u>Goal Title</u> Goal 1. Strong Vibrant Neighborhoods	
<u>Goal Statement</u> Newport's neighborhoods are part of our unique identity. A system of strong vibrant neighborhoods with a variety of housing options and quality of life amenities is the foundation to retaining existing residents and attracting newcomers	
<u>General Topic</u> Housing Supply & Affordability	<u>General Topic</u> Housing Maintenance, Historic Preser...
Objective 1. 1. Provide a variety of housing options with all ranges of type	Objective 2. 2. Ensure that the existing housing stock is well-maintained
Objective 1. 1. Provide a variety of housing options with all ranges of type and affordability, that meet the needs of all ages & fosters population growth.	
<u>Strategy</u> a. Identify gaps in housing needs and the types of housing appropriate for each neighborhood, and ensure...	
<u>PLACES where strategy applicable:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monmouth & York	
<u>Synergistic Objectives and Strategies</u>	

Aspirational Goals

- ❖ Big ambitions that may take years to achieve, aka stretch goals.
- ❖ General statements of desired outcomes of the community.

Objectives

- ❖ More specific targets and are a subset of goals, providing measurable strategies.

Strategies

- ❖ Multiple strategies identify activities, policies and/or programs designed to achieve the objective and directly related to the goal's intent.
- ❖ Bullets under strategies are **initial** action steps noted, **to be expanded in Phase 3**.

Places

- ❖ Provides notes regarding locations within the city where the strategies are applicable.

Synergistic Objectives and Strategies

- ❖ Policy opportunities related to the goal, which are more directly intertwined with the objectives of another goal.

Performance Measures To be added in Phase 3:

- ❖ Outcomes: Tangible results for the community based on achieving the goal
- ❖ Metrics: A means to measure the outcomes

Updated Aspirational Goals

1. Strong Vibrant Neighborhoods	2. Meaningful Places	3. Economic Prosperity & Resilience
4. Well Connected Infrastructure	5. Sustainable Environment	6. Healthy Community
7. Good Government		

Orange indicates revised text

Updated Aspirational Goals

1. Strong Vibrant Neighborhoods	2. Meaningful Places	3. Economic Prosperity & Resilience
Newport's neighborhoods are part of our unique identity. A system of strong vibrant neighborhoods with a variety of housing options and quality of life amenities is the foundation to retaining existing residents and attracting newcomers.	Newport will strengthen the connection between its people and the places they share . We will take pride in our history, appreciate and celebrate the many cultures that make up our community. Through frequent dialogue and interactions between our diverse neighborhoods and business districts we will establish a cohesive and unified identity for Newport in a way that enhances our sense of community. We value public space, public art, entertainment, and our unique blend of historic and contemporary development.	Newport's economy will be a balance of vibrant retail districts with lively venues for local and regional visitors, and office/commercial areas that are home to contemporary jobs that provide a living wage for residents and a solid tax base for the community. Newport will be a hub for local entrepreneurs as well as a regional economic driver.

Orange indicates revised/added text

Updated Aspirational Goals

4. Well Connected Infrastructure	5. Sustainable Environment	6. Healthy Community
Newport will have and maintain well-connected and safe multi-modal transportation, communications and utility networks. Newport will collaborate with communication and electric providers to ensure aesthetic, sustainable and accessible utilities . Newport will have access to safe and sanitary water and sewer utilities, and will maintain flood protection infrastructure for the safety of the public.	Newport values the numerous contributions natural resources make to human well-being, and recognizes the importance of protecting and enhancing the natural environment. We will conserve and manage our natural resources in a sustainable manner to ensure their long-term health.	Newport will offer a high quality of life with healthy and active alternatives to everyday activities. We will utilize public space, including valuable parks and open space assets, to travel, gather, exercise, recreate, and promote a healthy lifestyle. Newport will have access to local food options, including community gardens.
7. Good Government		
Newport will continue to provide effective local governance in order to foster an overall high quality of life for our citizens. The City Government will continue to be accessible, open, and fiscally responsible. We will work with regional partners to leverage strengths and resources, and will make long term capital plans to maintain infrastructure and prepare for the future. We will preserve public safety and grow property values, continually looking for ways to improve and collaborate for the benefit of the community.		

Orange indicates revised/added text

DISCUSSION: Objectives & First Cut Strategies

Discussion

Please comment on:

- Additional areas/objectives that we missed?
- Additional strategies that should be added?
- Potential opportunities to enhance equity in each objective.

(refer to handout for first-cut strategies)

1. Strong Vibrant Neighborhoods

Housing Supply & Affordability

1. Provide a variety of housing options with all ranges of type and affordability, that meet the needs of all ages and fosters population growth.

Housing Maintenance, Historic Preservation & Architectural Design

2. Ensure that the existing housing stock is well-maintained and property owners continue to invest in their properties, to maintain and/or develop community character.

Land Use Compatibility

3. Ensure the compatibility of land uses in and adjacent to neighborhoods in order to protect residential uses from blighting influences, such as impacts from adjacent or nearby commercial development, and integrate neighborhood friendly uses, where appropriate.

Schools & Education Facilities

4. Support and collaborate with educational institutions and other community resources such day care facilities.

2. Meaningful Connections

Celebrate Cultural & Historic Resources

1. Preserve, and restore when possible, historic places, landmarks and architecture that contribute to the identify and uniqueness of Newport's neighborhood's and business districts.

Neighborhood/Business District Diversity, Identity & Character

2. Develop and externally promote the City's identity in a way that embraces its diversity yet internally creates a cohesive sense of the City that unites all residents and businesses.

Gathering Spaces, Placemaking & Public Art

3. Develop and enhance the quality of public spaces throughout the City to provide opportunities for residents to encounter neighbors, entice people to linger, build community, contribute to local identity and foster community pride.

Communication, Collaboration and Community Involvement

4. Increase communications and collaboration among neighborhoods and among business districts, and with the City.

5. Increase civic involvement.

3. Economic Prosperity & Resilience

Economic Development, Business Growth & Economic/Job Diversity

1. Attract, retain and grow target businesses to provide a range of job opportunities in the City.

Land Availability, Land Use & Redevelopment

2. Promote appropriate development and redevelopment based on the surrounding land uses.

Neighborhood Business Districts

3. Maintain and strengthen attractive, vibrant and resilient neighborhood business districts.

Newport as a Regional Destination

4. Create, promote and support Newport as a destination. Attract customers, visitors, and investment to Newport.

4. Well Connected Infrastructure

Vehicular Transportation Network

1. Improve traffic flow and access for vehicular traffic within the city in ways that protect residential neighborhoods, enhance viability of neighborhood business districts, facilitate east-west traffic flow and improve safety.
2. Increase connectivity between Cincinnati and other adjacent municipalities through various modes of transportation (i.e., bike, bus, streetcar, ferry, water taxi, Southbank Shuttles).

Walkability & Bikeability

3. Design complete streets that serve multiple functions and modes for all ages and abilities.
4. Improve infrastructure and access for pedestrians.
5. Expand provision of bike facilities and remove gaps in the bike and trail systems to create more complete and safe bike routes.

Transit

6. Increase Use And Convenience Of Transit.

Parking Management

7. Enhance parking management strategies

Transportation Smart Technology, AV & Impacts on Land Use/Infrastructure

8. Embrace and utilize smart technology to increase efficiency and reduce environmental impacts.
9. Prepare for changes resulting from transportation advances (e.g. electric cars, scooters, etc.)

4. Well Connected Infrastructure

Water/Sanitary/Stormwater Utilities

- 10. Work with utility providers to maintain and upgrade utilities in a systematic manner to maximize efficiency.
- 11. Work with SD1 and collaborate with other cities in the watershed to reduce and manage stormwater runoff to mitigate flooding and erosion within the city through innovative gray and green infrastructure solutions.

Flood Protection

- 12. Continue to maintain flood protection infrastructure that protects property within the city from flooding of the Ohio and Licking Rivers.

Digital Inclusion, Ensure Access To Technology.

- 13. Understand and increase usage and access to digital and communications technology.

Underground Utility Initiatives.

- 14. Continue the City's current projects for undergrounding electric and other utility cables including along major corridors and in neighborhoods and evaluate additional areas for strategic undergrounding of overhead utilities.
- 15. Continue to require all new utilities (cable, electric, communications) to be placed underground.

5. Sustainable Environment

Protect the Natural Environment

1. Protect our existing natural environment to ensure its long-term viability.

Enhance and Restore the Natural Environment

2. Enhance, restore and replenish environmental resources throughout the City, such as open spaces and tree canopy.

Increase Access to Natural Areas

3. Increase Access to the Natural Environment

Incorporate the Natural Environment by Design

4. Encourage Land Use / Building Techniques that are environmentally sensitive, and celebrate the benefits of the natural environment:
5. Implement low-impact development and other types of green infrastructure strategies that may include naturalized stormwater features to reduce and manage stormwater runoff,, such as rain gardens, landscaped swales and bioretention areas along roadways and greenways.

6. Healthy Community

Existing Amenities & Programming

1. Preserve and enhance the **quality, location, facilities, amenities and programming** in the City's parks and open space assets.

New Parks & Open Space

2. Develop additional open space and park land to meet the current and future needs of the community along the riverfronts and throughout the neighborhoods.

Access/Paths & Trails

3. Create attractive, inviting, and safe bicycle and pedestrian facilities, trails, and connections to local and regional community assets (i.e., schools, parks, destinations). (See also Goal 4)

4. Enhance awareness, connectivity and access to well-maintained parks, open spaces and other gathering places.

Healthy Food, Safety & Health Services

5. Ensure access to healthy food from local sources

6. Increase safety and health services for the community.

7. Good Government

Consumer-Friendly City Government

1. Maintain and improve ease of conducting business with City Government.

Transparent & Open Government

2. Maintain and improve a culture of transparency.

Fiscal Sustainability/ Balanced Budgets (increased efficiencies)

3. Embrace innovations (technology) with a continual quest for improvement.

Capital Planning

4. Practice responsible budget management through capital planning.

Market/Promote Newport

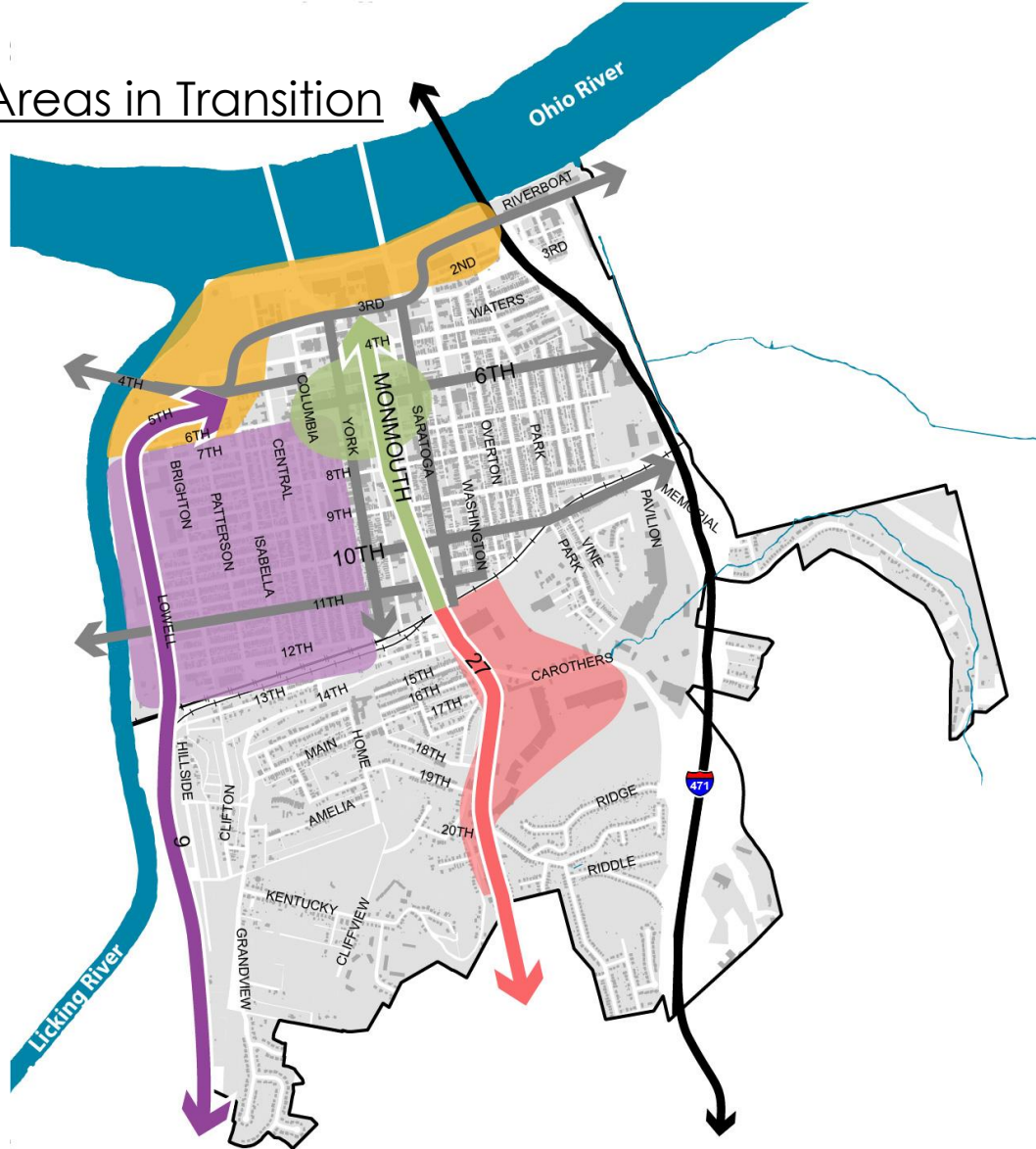
5. Project a positive image

Collaborate & Coordinate with Other Local Governments & Regional Entities

6. Pursue collaboration and consolidation with county and other cities for purchases, provision of services and through other opportunities.

| Focus Group Sessions

Areas in Transition



RIVERFRONT

WEST SIDE & ROUTE 9

CONNECTIVITY

**CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT &
PUBLIC SPACE**

S. US 27 & SHOPPING CENTER

Potential Topics for Focus Group Sessions

- ❖ **Riverfront** (development, parks and recreation, access/connectivity, protection/preservation of, etc.)
- ❖ **West Side & Route 9** (housing, historic preservation, Licking riverfront access, land use, economic development, riverfront industrial development, parks and recreation, connectivity)
- ❖ **Connectivity** (east-west & north-south, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure)
- ❖ **Central Business District & Public Open Space** (placemaking strategies within the Central Business District and developing additional public/open space (i.e., Central Park))
- ❖ **S. US 27 & Shopping Center** (smart corridor, land use, economic development, shopping center development, etc.)

| Next Steps

Future Public Engagement

- Pros & Cons of June 18 Public Forum
- Committee-led / Neighborhood Focused Outreach options